

The only thing which might run short
—and that
possibility was serious—was ammunition,
although
they had brought some more over in
the boat.
If, as a consequence of repeated attacks,
powder,
bullets and cannon balls ran out,
defence would
cease to be possible.

While M. Zermatt and Ernest helped
the women
to make everything as comfortable as
possible,
Mr. Wolston and Captain Gould, the
boatswain
and Fritz and Jack and Frank surveyed
Shark's
Island on foot. Almost all round the
coast it
was easily accessible on little beaches
lying between
the projecting points of the coast-line.
The best
protected part was that commanded by
the battery
knoll, which rose at the south-west
extremity, overlooking Deliverance Bay. At its foot there
were
enormous rocks, among which it would
be very
difficult to effect a landing.
Everywhere else,
light boats, such as these pirogues
were, could
find quite enough water to enable them
to reach
land. Consequently it was
indispensable that
they should keep all the approaches to
the island
under careful supervision,

In the course of their inspection Fritz
and Frank

had opportunity to observe the fine
condition of
the plantations. The mangroves, palms,
ami pt8fe&
were in full fruit. Thick grass,
carpeted **the**
pastures where the herd of antelopes
capered «t
played. Maay birds, flitting from
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